

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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PRICE TWO CENTS

## MAIL SEIZURE BRINGS SHARP NOTE BY U. S.

State Department Sends Vigorous Protest To London Against Interference With First-Class Matter From This Country—Note is Delivered By Ambassador Page—Germany's Acquiescence to Demands on Lusitania Settlement Made Public.

Washington, Jan. 8.—The United States has sent to Ambassador Page at London for presentation to the British foreign office a note vigorously protesting against the British authorities' interfering with and censoring mails from the United States to neutral European countries.

The note is understood to have already been delivered to the British foreign office.

The state department plans to make public its text here later today.

## BERLIN ASSURES SAFETY FOR ALL OCEAN VOYAGERS

Washington, Jan. 8.—Germany's note, accepting the American contention that the mere placing of non-combatants in lifeboats when a prize is to be destroyed, is not under all conditions to be regarded as assuring them a place of safety, was made public today by the state department.

The most important part of the text relating to the sinking of ships carrying contraband and the safety of non-combatants says:

"Until the decision of the permanent court of arbitration, the German naval forces will sink such American vessels as are loaded with absolute contraband when the pre-conditions provided by the declaration of London are present. In this the German government quite shares the views of the American government, that all possible care must be taken for the security of the crew and passengers of a vessel to be sunk. Consequently the persons found on board of a vessel may not be ordered into lifeboats except when the general conditions, that is to say, the weather, the condition of the sea and the neighborhood of the coast, afford absolute certainty that the boats will reach the nearest port. For the rest, the German government begs to point out that in cases where German naval forces have sunk neutral vessels for carrying contraband, no loss of life has yet occurred."

Germany declined, however, to have the commissioners who will settle the Frye damages meet in Washington because, it is pointed out, that the German expert, Dr. Graef, of Bremen, would be exposed to danger of capture during a voyage to America "in consequence of the conduct of maritime war by England contrary to international law."

Germany also declines to assent at this time to the nomination of an umpire in the absence of a determination of whether the experts would settle damages on principles. Germany refuses to have an umpire consider the question of principle.

For the arbitration of the Prussian-American treaty, Germany in the note, proposed a special court of five from the permanent court at The Hague of which each country shall choose two and the first two shall choose the fifth to meet at The Hague June 15.

The United States has contended that the German cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich had no right under the treaty to sink the Frye.

EDMUND H. HURD SUCCEUMBS AFTER EXTENDED ILLNESS

The death of Edmund H. Hurd occurred after a long illness at his home, 229 Main street, last evening, in the 70th year of his age. Mr. Hurd was born in Huntington and was the son of the late Harvey and Melissa Beardsley Hurd. He came to Bridgeport about 40 years ago and entered the employ of Fox & Egan, retail butchers, located on Main street, and subsequently engaged in the grocery business under the firm name of Lines & Hurd.

In 1892 he established the First Side Pharmacy at 282 Noble avenue, which he sold to W. C. Hamilton three years ago and retired from all active business.

## NEGROES FIGHT FATAL DUEL IN SHOP OF SMITH

Armed With Horseshoes, Teamsters Battle Furiously in Early Morning.

## CRUELTY TO HORSES CAUSE OF STRUGGLE

Older Man, Disarming Adversary, Hands Back Weapon, Then Worst Him.

A duel, probably fatal, with horseshoes as the weapons, was fought in the backsmith shop of Christopher Rickard, truckman, 524 Howard avenue, by negro teamsters at 6 o'clock this morning.

James Nixon, aged 35, is in Bridgeport hospital, his skull fractured, probably fatally hurt.

John Henry Coleman, aged 54, is under arrest, held in jail of \$5,000, on the charge of assault with intent to kill.

Coleman has told the police a thrilling story of the duel in the blacksmith shop, frankly admitting having inflicted the probably fatal injury upon Nixon, whom he accuses of cruelty to his horses. His inhuman treatment of the animals precipitated a fight today after two days of quarreling, according to Coleman's statement, which contains many details showing the fight to have been most unprovoked.

Nixon's custom had been to lash his horses as the teamsters drove out of the yard, each morning. He took pride in being the first out. Coleman often remonstrated. Today he grabbed Nixon's arm and again urged him to be more gentle with the horses.

Coleman says, Nixon, angered at his interference, snatched a stake from his wagon and struck him on the head. Coleman attacked Nixon, and the latter fled into the blacksmith shop. There they grappled, and as they rolled over the floor, Nixon picked up a horseshoe for defense. Coleman swung his overpowered Nixon and tore the horseshoe from his grasp.

Then, Coleman says, he thought it would be only fair to give the younger man a chance to defend himself, and seizing another horseshoe, he handed back to Nixon the shoe he had taken from his grasp. Then the two made battle furiously while teamsters and blacksmiths looked on, and saw Coleman vanquish Nixon.

Coleman drove off about his work, and Nixon, badly wounded, but apparently not dangerously hurt, also started back towards his team. A few minutes later he asked his fellow teamster for the day off, went to his home, 1034 Railroad avenue, and collapsed.

His wife caused a call to be sent to the emergency hospital, for the ambulance corps.

E. B. Weldon found that Nixon was suffering from a fracture of the skull. He was rushed to Bridgeport hospital where an operation was performed upon the skull at 10 o'clock.

At a late hour today little hope was entertained for his recovery.

Bridgeport hospital authorities communicated the facts and the nature of the assault to the police and Detective James Bray and James Doolley placed Coleman under arrest, while he was at his work in the Bridgeport Brass Co.'s foundry in Housatonic avenue.

In a statement given the police Coleman told a straightforward story and admitted assaulting Nixon, saying he "whaled the daylight" out of "Nick" because the latter had been cruel to his team of horses and had assaulted him.

Nixon is married and has two children. Coleman came here from Charleston, S. C., about one year ago. He admits being arrested on a similar charge of assault on a teamster about a year ago.

He said that at that time he had been robbed by another colored gentleman and that to "make things even" he "whaled the daylight" out of that gentleman. He was later released by order of the court of that place. He is a trusted employee and said to be a peaceable workman and his actions of this morning came as a great surprise to his fellow workmen.

## COL. E. M. HOUSE, WILSON'S ENVOY CALLS ON GREY

London, Jan. 8.—As the first step in his mission to investigate war conditions, Col. E. M. House, personal representative of President Wilson, saw Sir Edward Grey, minister for foreign affairs, today. No statement was given out regarding the matters discussed.

## Land Index Clerk Fails To Appear At Town Clerk's Office

Up to noon today, the closing hour at the town clerk's office, Miss Mabel E. McGrath, land index clerk, had not replied to Town Clerk Shultz's registered letter either to report for duty or to give some excuse for her absence.

Miss McGrath quit work Monday night after a dispute with the town clerk. She had refused to obey his instructions to teach Mrs. Julia Cuddy the indexing work. The book for 1916 arrived in the town clerk's office yesterday and Mrs. Cuddy went to work on the book today in the place of Miss McGrath.

JOHN BOLAND ILL WITH PNEUMONIA

Suffering from pleuro-pneumonia and in a critical condition, John Boland of 1822 Park avenue was transferred in the emergency hospital ambulance at 4:30 this morning to St. Vincent's hospital. His condition is critical.

## POSSE, AWAITING BURGLARS, FIGHT WITH P. O. YEGGS

Three Shot and Two Arrested While Robbing Boom Town Post-office.

## CRACKSMEN SOUGHT BIG PAY DAY COIN

Townpeople, Forewarned By Previous Hold-Up, Wait For in Hiding.

Penn Grove, N. J., Jan. 8.—Six or seven men were surprised while robbing the postoffice here today with the result that three are in a hospital with bullet wounds and two others are in the Camden county jail after a battle with citizens, policemen and postal inspectors.

Because of the great increase in the number of to play at the Du Pont Powder works at Carney's Point, N. J., Penn Grove now has a population of about 25,000. On pay day at the powder plant two weeks ago an attempt was made to rob the post office and as yesterday was a good pay day another visit from the robbers was anticipated.

Chief Marshal Harbeson enlisted the services of half a dozen citizens to help his four policemen and postal officials sent four inspectors. All were armed.

The post office was surrounded at midnight by this guard and at 2:30 a. m. the robbers silently approached the little building from different directions, huddled open the front door and entered. One man stayed outside as lookout.

Soon afterward the posse closed in on the lookout. Instantly the other robbers were at the doors and had started shooting, the posse returning the fire vigorously. The thieves retreated under cover of the falling night.

These were taken to the hospital where they gave their names as John Mayo, of St. Paul; Frank Matson, of Galesburg, Ill., and Charles Collins. Two other men were arrested later.

## OLD INJURY MAY HAVE LED DRIVER TO TRAIN'S PATH

Believe John Evarts' Death Was Caused By Peculiar Occurrence.

An injury received one year ago, which almost proved fatal, is believed to have been the cause of the peculiar occurrence of the death of John Evarts, a farmer of Hills Farms, who was killed last night on the railroad tracks near the town of Hills.

Evarts' horse, his horse and wagon and the latter's equipment were found on the tracks. How he came there is a mystery, but in some quarters it is believed today that the old injury to his head, received in an accident at Fairfield a year ago, caused him to fall into unconsciousness.

Evarts' body is unclaimed. Search has failed to find his relatives. Medical Examiner S. M. Garlick finds that death was accidental, although he cannot account for Evarts losing his grip on the reins unless he had been struck by a train.

The horse is believed to have fallen through the railroad ties. It is thought it lay in that position until the express train approached.

Evarts' body was found on the tracks last night when it was believed that it had struck something. Upon investigation it was disclosed that it had struck a trunk which had been on Evarts' wagon. A search with lanterns disclosed Evarts' dead body. It was placed aboard a freight train and brought to this city where it will be held in the morgue of Cullinan & Mullins on Main street until relatives claim the body.

Evarts, who was 45, was a farmer and resided in Hills Farms. Later he purchased the Wilson place in the back of Southport. He paid three months' rent in advance and the time is not up yet.

Little is known among neighbors of Evarts' recent history. The accident a year ago when an automobile, the driver of which disappeared, struck his wagon and hurled him from his seat. His skull was fractured and he lay at death's door in a hospital for several weeks. He recovered, however.

## S. R. Gordon Would Remove Mrs. Johnson From Guardianship

A petition to have Esther Peterson Johnson removed as the guardian of her two months old son was filed by Supt. Gordon of the charities department in the probate court today. The child was born out of wedlock and the mother abandoned it here on December 3. She was subsequently arrested but the charge of abandonment was dropped when the woman placed the child in the care of the child, married Esther a few days ago. The mother now wants her child. A hearing on the petition has been set for Jan. 11 at 2 p. m. The city court yesterday ordered the child's return to the parents but Gordon has refused to comply.

## DR. M. C. FERNALD DEAD

Orono, Me., Jan. 8.—Dr. Merritt C. Fernald, 78, president of the University of Maine from 1879 to 1893, died today.

Fernald retired in 1908 on a special pension from the Carnegie Foundation for conspicuous educational service.

## TROOPS GUARD SMOULDERING RUINS OF OHIO TOWN, FIRED BY RIOTERS CRAZED BY DRINK

ONE KILLED, HUNDRED HURT AS RIOTERS SACK VILLAGE WITH \$1,000,000 LOSS

Mob of several thousand men and women looted saloons and mercantile stores and then fire many buildings in East Youngstown.

Ten blocks in business center burned to the ground with property loss of approximately \$1,000,000.

One killed, hundred injured, as mob battles with volunteer posse formed by citizens. Fifteen in hospitals.

Fire departments called out to quell rioters find themselves powerless when mob slashes hose to ribbons.

Three regiments of Ohio militia in charge of situation. Edicts against sale of liquors and firearms expected.

State industrial commission takes up problem of settling labor dispute by mediation.

## 'NEW HAVEN' JURY, OUT OVER 24 HOURS, UNABLE TO ARRIVE AT VERDICT

New York, Jan. 8.—The fate of the 11 former directors of the New York, New Haven & Hartford R. R., accused of criminal violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, still hung in the balance today. The jury at 1:30 o'clock had been out 24 hours without reaching a verdict and at that time were listening to the reading of certain parts of the testimony in open court.

Doubt was expressed by counsel that they would reach an agreement, if at all, before night. The testimony of the Joy Steamship Line which the New

## FIVE ORPHANED MILFORD TOTS IN SAD PLIGHT

No Funds to Bury Father, Two Small Children Are Desperately Ill.

Milford, Jan. 8.—Fatherless and motherless the five children of Edmund Bartlett late of Gulf street contribute today to make the interior of the Bartlett home one of the most pitiful scenes in the memory of Milford people.

Their mother died five years ago. Desperately combating every effort to take one of his children from him, the father had been stricken with pneumonia Thursday. Now two of the children are desperately ill with the grip and they are threatened with pneumonia.

With all this trouble there is none to aid except kind-hearted neighbors. There is no money in the house and the father is unable to work because of lack of funds. The children have medical attention, but they can't pay for it. They have food, too, but the neighbors are bringing it in baskets.

Edmund Bartlett was a man of modest means. He worked in the straw hat factory and made enough to keep his children and his wife. But, five years ago, trouble came to him. His loving wife was stricken with illness and died, and the cost of burying her weighed heavily on the family.

There were six children. Many made offers to take one or more of them off Bartlett's hands because they are lovable children. He refused. He wouldn't part with them for love or money. There came a day, however, when he learned that he couldn't work all day and give six children the care of which their mother's death had robbed them.

Reluctantly, he parted with one child, placing it with a relative in New Jersey. It was a girl, as were the rest of the children with one exception. He didn't like to do it but he had to.

Then came more tribulations and others told him to give one or more of his children into some kind family's care. He wouldn't think of it. He continued to toil at the shop by day and teach his children at night.

This couldn't last. Neighbors say he couldn't stand the strain. Four days ago he became ill. He contracted pneumonia and died.

The children were bereft. Neighbors cared for the children during the illness, but all their solitudes didn't stave off more sorrow. Two of the younger children were stricken and they are in danger of death.

While the sympathetic women of the neighborhood bring the children food, there is talk of a popular subscription. Otherwise, Bartlett will go to a pauper's grave. The town will care for the children in a home, unless the townspeople do something privately.

## THE WEATHER

Fair and not quite so cold tonight and Sunday; moderate northeast to southeast winds.

## ATLAS LAWYERS ABSENT, HEARING AGAIN DELAYED

One Witness Characterizes Professor As "A Perfect Gentleman."

Rev. William W. Rose of the Universalist church, and Attorney A. J. Merritt were on hand to represent the plaintiffs when the continued hearing on the Hotel Atlas remonstrance was called this morning by the county commissioners. Neither Prof. Atlas nor his lawyers were present, however, and the commissioners wanted the hearing until Monday. They notified counsel for Atlas if they were not present then that the case would be considered closed.

Prof. Atlas had previously stated that there were several depositions he wanted read and Attorney Foley, of counsel for the hotel proprietor, said the depositions this afternoon. The commissioners were incensed because neither Attorney Brennan nor Attorney Foley, representing Prof. Atlas, were on hand, although the date of the hearing was well understood. It was said that Attorney Brennan was out of the city.

One of the depositions was said to be that of Thomas Ely, who lives in Fairfield avenue across the street from the hotel. He declared he had never seen anything wrong at the hotel and declared Prof. Atlas was "a perfect gentleman."

One Killed in Riot.

One life is known to have been lost, fully 10 blocks of the town, including the entire business section, were burned and several thousands of people were driven from their homes in the riot last night. The loss was placed at no less than \$1,000,000.

Physicians who were called to look after the wounded, placed the number at 100, although 15 had been brought to hospitals here. While the majority had been shot, there were many wounds from knives, bearing out the statement that when the rioters were finally driven from Wilson avenue, the main street of the town, they began fighting among themselves.

Mayor Carroll Thornton, of Youngstown, two miles from the burned town, was expected to issue an order today closing all saloons in the city, while arrangements were being made to restrict, and perhaps prohibit the sale of firearms if the military did not act. There was no liquor question to settle in East Youngstown for the 20 saloons all but two had been burned and they had been looted.

This time it had lost all semblance of leadership and splitting up into about the work of destruction. Saloon after saloon was broken into, looted and fired, the flames spreading to the other business blocks on the street. Fanned by the wind the fire tore its way up the hill and many residences, some occupied by the rioters, were burned.

Two weeks ago laborers of the Republic Iron & Steel Co. struck for an increase of from 10 1-2 to 25 cents an hour. The Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. offered them 20 1-2 cents an hour immediately after the U. S. Steel Corporation had announced its increase of 10 per cent. for laborers. This was rejected by the workers and the strike has since been in progress.

Reports are prevalent today that strike breakers had been imported. (Continued on Page 2.)

## Further Outbreaks Feared and 2,000 Soldiers Are Ordered to Youngstown and Vicinity—Property Loss in Riot is \$1,000,000.

One Dead and Hundred Hurt is Estimate of Casualties in Wildest Disorders—Edict Banning Sale of Firearms and Liquors Expected.

Youngstown, O., Jan. 8.—National guardsmen with fixed bayonets drove back a mob of strikers who threatened the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. plant here early this afternoon. The strikers formed and militiamen inside were ordered out and repulsed them, pursuing them to the hill opposite. Lines were then established on the main street of East Youngstown.

Three regiments of the Ohio National Guard today patrolled the smoldering ruins of the village of East Youngstown, where last night a drink-crazed mob of several thousand plundered stores and then set fires that wiped out ten blocks in the business center.

From Struthers, a nearby village, came a call for militia protection this noon when a mob formed and battled with the town officers. Brig. Gen. John C. Speaks, in charge of the militia, sent two companies by automobile to Struthers, where early reports said that a general riot was in progress.

Mob Is Dispersed.

The militia under Gen. Speaks broke up a demonstration this morning near the plant of the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. Several hundred persons gathered on a hill overlooking the factory, where the strike is in progress, and remained there until dispersed by the militia.

The State Industrial commission today sent a representative here with a view to instituting arbitration proceedings if possible.

More than 2,000 militiamen are in the city today. Hundreds of citizens have fled from Youngstown, fearing a repetition of the violent disorders of last night.

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